

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00690 281213Z

42

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 IO-14 /137 W

----- 108939

R 281130Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2399

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0690

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS MILI AO

SUBJ: REPORTED INCREASE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY

REF: LUANDA 648

1. VARIETY OF LOCAL INFORMANTS CONFIRM INCREASED MILITARY ACTIVITY WITHIN NORTHERN MILITARY ZONE AND UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF CASUALTIES ON ANGOLAN SIDE. PRESUMABLY IN RESPONSE POSSIBILITY OF SIZEABLE YULETIDE ACTION BY ENEMY, TROOPS STATIONED IN LUANDA HAVE BEEN CONFINED TO BARRACKS SINCE WEEKEND BEFORE CHRISTMAS WITH CONSEQUENT NOTICEABLE LACK OF UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN URBAN AREA. (ALTERNATE THEORY: MILITARY BELATEDLY AWARE OF FUEL SHORTAGE HAS CURTAILED JOYRIDING BY LUANDA-BASED TROOPS.)

2. SEPARATE REPORT INDICATES ANGOLAN HIGH COMMAND CONVINCED GRAE/FNLA ACQUIRING (HAS ACQUIRED?) SAMS, WHICH COULD DISRUPT RESUPPLY EFFORTS BY AIR TO TROOPS IN NORTHERN SECTOR AT EARLY DATE. PORTUGAL SAID TO HAVE PLACED LARGE ORDER -- POSSIBLY WITH VOLVO OF SWEDEN -- FOR FLEET OF REFRIGERATOR TRUCKS TO
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TAKE PLACE OF AIRLIFT IF NECESSARY.

COMMENT: YEAR THUS SEEMS TO BE ENDING ON NOTE OF MILD EXCITEMENT LARGELY ABSENT DURING PAST 12 MONTHS.
BRIGGS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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